(b) if not, what steps Government proposes to take in the matter; and

(c) the current mechanism to address the concerns of the steel or mineral industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) There is no statutory forum for pro-active engagement between Government and prospective investors in the steel and mineral Sector. However, Government has constituted on Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) to monitor and coordinate issues concerning major steel investments in the country.

The IMG consists of following members:—

i.	Secretary, Ministry of Steel	Chairman
ii.	Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	Member
iii.	Member (Traffic), Railway Board, Ministry of Railways	Member
iv.	Secretary, Department of Shipping	Member
v.	Secretary, Department of Road Transport and Highways	Member
vi.	Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Member
vii.	Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest	Member
viii.	Chief Secretary of concerned State Governments	Member
ix.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Steel	Convener

Any other Ministry/State Government may be requested to participate as and when considered necessary.

Further, the terms of reference (ToR) of the IMG are:—

To review and coordinate measures for early completion of the major steel capacities and to address various problems concerning:—

(i) Infrastructure constraints related to ports, rail, road network.

(ii) Availability of iron are and coal.

(iii) Speedy environmental clearance for project site as well as for iron ore and coal mining activities.

(iv) Availability of land, water resources and issues cocnerning rehabilitation.

(v) Any other items concerned with the major steel investments in the country.

Price hike of steel

153. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the continuous increase in price of steel which is detrimental to house construction effects of the people;

(b) if so, the price fixing mechanism for steel and extent to which the price of the steel increased during each of the last six months; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to stabilize the price of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Price of steel across all categories in the domestic as well as the internatinoal markets witnessed an uptrend since January, 2008 onwards. However, a number of fiscal and administrative measures timely taken by the Government, as mentioned below in reply to part (c) of the question, helped in stabilizing the steel prices in the domestic market. The effect of rise in price of steel on construction is limited and varies depending upon the type, the size and the qualtiy of construction.

(b) Steel is a deregulated sector and steel prices are determined by the market based on factors like demand and supply situation, landed cost of imports, input costs and price and availability of substitutes etc. The details of price movement of representative categories of steel products on monthly basis during the last six months in the retails market of Delhi is given in the Statement. (*see below)*

(c) The steps taken by the Government to stabilize steel prices in the country are as follows:—

- DEPB on steel products withdrawn *w.e.f.* 27.3.08.
- Import Duty on all non-alloy steel, Zinc, ferro-alloys and metcoke revised to 'Nil' from 5%, *w.e.f.* 29.4.08 CVED on TMT bars and rounds modified to 'Nil' from 14%.
- Export Duty @ 15% imposed on 10.5.08 in Pig Iron, Sponge, Iron, Scrap, Ingots and all categories of non-alloy semi finished steel still continues.
- Export Duty @ 10% was imposed on long products such as bars, wire rods, angles *etc.*, on 10.5.08. This war later revised to 15% *w.e.f. 13.6.08.*
- Ad-valorem export duty of 15% imposed on iron ore of all categories and grades.

Statement

Details of month wise Steel price movement in Delhi retail market during April-Stepember, 2008

(in Rs./tonne)

Month	HR 2.0mm	CR 0.63mm	TMT 10mm	Wire Road 8mm	Pig Iron	Pencil Ingot 100mm
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
April, 2008	49000	52000	46000	43600	34500	38300
May, 2008	43000	45000	38200	38000	32400	33000
June, 2008	50045	49492	47451	45925	32900	39650

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
July, 2008	45327	48145	43335	43738	35397	38168
August, 2008	45477	48145	42727	43073	36873	35366
September, 2008	45327	48700	41934	43664	36000	35300

(Source: JPC)

Note: prices as on 15th of every month.

Iron ore provided to Greenfield and expansion projects

154. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Greenfield and expansion projects started under the public and private sector so far; and

(b) how many of these projects have asked for iron ore mines for their projects and how many have been given captive iron ore mines, project-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Ministry of Steel is monitoring the activities of major integrated steel projects in the country. A brief on the major expansion (brownfield) and greenfield projects in the steel sector in the country is as given below:—

(i) **Brownfield projects**:—

(Crude Steel Capacity in Million Tonnes)

Company	Project	Existing capacity	Proposed expansion	Cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
SAIL	(i) IISCO Steel Plant	0.47	2.50	14443.00
	(ii) Salem Steel Plant	—	0.18	1902.00
	(iii) Bokaro Steel Plant	4.07	7.00	15196.00
	(iv) Bhilai Steel Plant	4.80	7.00	21139.00
	(v) Rourkela Steel Plant	1.99	4.20	12313.00
	(vi) Durgapur Steel Plant	1.869	3.00	8004.00
RINL	Visakhaptanam	2.9	6.3	8962.00
TATA	Jameshdpur	5.0	10.0	14000.00